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NEWSLETTER OF THOMAS EDISON STATE COLLEGE

FALL 1996/WINTER 1997

Dr. James Douglas Brown, Jr., first president of Thomas Edison State College, dies

Dr. James Douglas Brown, Jr., the first president of Thomas Edison State College, the nation's premier institution of higher learning for adults, died Dec. 3, 1996, in New Haven, Conn., after a long illness. He was 63.

"It is because of Dr. Brown's original vision and leadership that Thomas Edison State College has achieved its current status as a leader in higher education for adults," said Dr. George A. Pruitt, president of Thomas Edison State College since 1982. "Jim Brown envisioned the tremendous possibilities of a College which would enable adults to complete academic degrees of



Dr. James Douglas Brown, Jr.

the highest quality beyond the barriers of time and place. He translated this vision into action strategies which set the stage for the phenomenal growth the College has experienced in the past decade. At

the same time, his great passion for education and his caring concern for the individual

in economics from Union College in Schenectady, N.Y., and the M.S. and Ph.D.

"It was the only job I ever had where you'd go in through the front door every day with a smile on your face."

School of Business at New York University from 1964-1966. From 1966 to 1969, he served as dean of the School of Business Administration and Professor of Economics with Adelphi University. His career took him to Columbia University where he was director of Executive Programs in the

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24th Annual Commencement celebrated October 20

BY LINDA SOLTIS

Doris E. Rodriguez's road to a college degree has taken her all around the world and then some.

Rodriguez, who began her quest for a college degree over 18 years ago, represented the graduating class at Thomas Edison State College's 24th Annual Commencement on Oct. 20 at the Shriner's Crescent Auditorium in Trenton, N.J.

In her commencement address to her fellow graduates, Rodriguez stressed the importance of Thomas Edison's program for adult learners who have children, careers, families and complicated personal responsibilities. "Thomas Edison brings the college to you, in your home, with your family, at your job and as part of your life. It's not easy, but it's doable."

In March 1978, Rodriguez joined AT&T's International Department, where she rose quickly from the ranks of the typing pool to management. She was often called overseas on business and the circumstances left her few options for earning her degree.

"A commute to my local college would be a little difficult, from Japan, Korea, Finland, Iceland, Germany or Israel,"



The whole family—son Malik and wife Barbara—gathered to congratulate Ron Biddle '96.

said Rodriguez, who has visited 37 foreign nations at last count. "I decided that testing was the best vehicle to take me on the road to a degree. I would pack textbooks along with my meeting materials when I traveled and devour the information at airports, in hotels, between meetings and flying over the Atlantic and Pacific."

The long-time Raritan Borough resident also had a "very rocky road" personally as she pursued her degree.

Rodriguez, who earned a bachelor of arts degree, had to overcome breast cancer and two major surgeries. But she did it in style, receiving the College's Arnold Fletcher Award for exceptional achievement in independent learning.

Rodriguez was one of 43 graduates to be recognized as a Fletcher Award recipient, and one of the 968 members of the Class of 1996. Some

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degrees in economics from the University of Wisconsin, Madison. He taught economics at Amherst College, Hamilton College and Centre College and served as assistant dean and assistant professor of Economics with the Graduate

25 years of inventing higher education

Sometimes dreams come true.

In the late '60s and early '70s, some of the nation's leading educators envisioned a college designed exclusively for busy adults. This "dream college" would provide education of the highest

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"Gatsby & Friends": A RECORD BREAKING GALA

A record 275 friends of the College joined the Thomas Edison State College Foundation for "Gatsby & Friends" at the Hyatt Regency Princeton. This fifth annual Gala was a smashing success, raising more than \$56,000 in an elegant mansion atmosphere among Gatsbyesque top hats, boas and pearls.

One of the highlights of the

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Foundation director Marilyn Pearson, Keith Smalls and Cynthia Johnson at Gala.



Enjoying the Gala are Alumni Association President Adele K. Ellis '88, '94 (far right) and her husband, Kyle, and President-Elect Paul A. Hays '89 (second from left) and his wife, Ferne.

Jack Livingstone named to five-year term as New Jersey state librarian

A popular retired state librarian has decided to re-enter the workforce to join the ranks of Thomas Edison State College. Dr. George A. Pruitt, president of the College, announced the appointment of John H. "Jack" Livingstone Jr. of Ocean Grove, N.J., to a five-year term as New Jersey state librarian. The New Jersey State Library is an affiliate of Thomas Edison State College.

"I am pleased to appoint Jack to this key position," said Dr. Pruitt. "Jack Livingstone is the right choice to lead the

former businessman. A 1949 graduate of Temple University, Livingstone was employed by two oil companies and operated a business before his love of reading and a desire to find a more rewarding life's work sent him to Drexel University where he earned the MLS degree and subsequently joined the State Library in 1965. He became director of the Monmouth County Library in 1968 and retired in 1992.

Livingstone came out of retirement one year ago to serve as state librarian when

key role in delivering state library resources, from technical documents to traditional library holdings, to all the people of New Jersey, through vehicles such as the Internet and World Wide Web."

Developing a Strategic Plan for Information Sharing

Dr. Pruitt noted that the next five years will be a unique period of transition and growth for the New Jersey State Library. "Under Jack's leadership, the Library will develop a long-range strategic plan which will describe its increasingly important role in meeting our state's growing information needs," said Dr. Pruitt, who himself is an internationally recognized expert in the strategic planning process. "There is no one in either the private or public sector in New Jersey more qualified to lead the development and set the stage for the implementation of such a plan than Jack Livingstone."

An affiliate of Thomas Edison State College since July 1996, the State Library has nearly two million holdings and includes a law library and a governmental research office at 185 W. State St.; consulting services offered through the Library Development Bureau; management of a statewide multi-type library network; as well as the Library for the Blind and Handicapped. ❖



George A. Pruitt (left), president of Thomas Edison, is joined by Renee Swartz, State Library Advisory Council chair, Lynn Randall, New Jersey Library Association president, and Jack Livingstone, New Jersey State Librarian, during a "wedding reception" in Prudence Hall to observe the union of Thomas Edison and the New Jersey State Library last year.

...the next five years will be a unique period of transition and growth for the New Jersey State Library.

New Jersey State Library into the 21st century. In the emerging 'Information Age,' his visionary thinking and impressive background in library science will provide the leadership necessary to make greater informational resources available to all the people of this state. He is a true scholar with a genuine love of people as well as a love of learning."

Leaving Retirement for a Third Career

Livingstone's appointment, in a sense, is a third career for the experienced librarian and

the State Library was still under the aegis of the Department of Education. Thomas Edison State College assumed the administration of the State Library in 1996.

"I am delighted to accept this appointment," Livingstone said. "So much is happening in the library field, especially in the area of technology. I am pleased to be part of Thomas Edison State College's forward-looking program to bring education and information to men and women outside the barriers of time and space. We can have a

Commencement...from p.1

200 members of the Class received degrees during ceremonies. This year's class of adult learners came from 20 states, including California, Florida, Nevada, Rhode Island and New Jersey.

Dr. Frederick S. Humphries, president of Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University in Tallahassee, Fla., was awarded an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Humane Letters by the Thomas Edison State College Board of Trustees. ❖



Debbie Williams '96 celebrates with nephew Clifford Joseph Williams IV after Commencement.

faculty profile

Graduate faculty member takes a worldwide view

BY BARBARA EKLUND

Whether they are researching the rain forest of Central America,

on-leave to direct a significant new initiative for the National Science Foundation in Washington or "retired" after a stellar career as a performing artist, faculty who serve Thomas Edison State College are at the tops in their fields.

Dr. Joseph C. Santora is no exception. In addition to being a full professor at Essex County College, where he has worked for 21 years, Dr. Santora has traveled the world, speaking, researching and publishing in the field of management, leadership and organizational leadership.

Dr. Santora's most recent trip took him to Australia, where he was appointed Visiting Professional Fellow at the Leadership Center at Monash-Eliza Business School, part of Monash University. He spent his time interviewing top Australian executives from the profit sector to develop case studies similar to the Harvard



Dr. Joseph C. Santora

Case Studies, and he also taught in the Executive Development Program.

Two of the cases he developed while in Australia have already been accepted by Prentice Hall to be published in 1997. One will appear in "Organizational Behavior in Australia and New Zealand"; the second is "Strategic Management in Australia and New Zealand: Concepts, Context, and Cases."

From his work, Dr. Santora has observed that many managers worldwide still adopt U.S. management practices

and believe that Americans are the great innovators. He found executives, CEOs and managing directors in Australia to be "more laid back, more accessible than Americans at their levels." He was surprised and pleased to be able to interview high ranking officials whose counterparts in the U.S. would more than likely have been unavailable to him. During interviews, Dr. Santora was surprised with their openness.

He has interviewed many executives and sees a vivid distinction between leaders and managers, observing that very few people can be both. "Leaders provide the vision—they look beyond the day-to-day operations and want to think about where the company will be in three years, then five, then ten. Managers are more like the people who ran the 'mom and pop' type operations: they sold something, they replaced it, and things pretty much stayed the same."

This past summer's trip was the first extended time Dr. Santora had spent in that part

of the world. "Australia, a continent of only 18 million people, reminds me of what the United States was like 35 years ago as far as friendliness and a sense of community and closeness. There are wonderful town centers and people seem to genuinely be involved in communities," stated Dr. Santora.

On the graduate level at Thomas Edison, Dr. Santora is a learning facilitator for Part I of "Organizational Management and Leadership Seminar."

Although he was only two weeks into the course when interviewed, Dr. Santora was excited about the course, especially with the extra appeal of working with the students online. In this first class, he is working with a group of AT&T employees, and he anticipates excellent exchanges as they discuss the theories in relation to what is happening in the business community today. Like many Thomas Edison students who work while attending college, there is the opportunity to apply theory learned in a course to hands on-work experiences.

In addition to the work for the Master of Science in Management Program, Dr. Santora has also mentored Guided Study courses such as "People and Organizations" and "Principles of Management." He continues to serve on teams that evaluate education and training which occurs outside the collegiate sector and makes college credit recommendations for PONS (Program on Noncollegiate Sponsored Instruction), an American Council on Education program operated by Thomas Edison's Office of Corporate-Higher Education Programs.

Dr. Santora earned his Ed.D. in Administration Policy/Urban Education, at Fordham University in New York. In the '80s, he was a mid-career fellow at Princeton University, in the Woodrow Wilson Graduate School of Public and International Affairs. His work in the areas of management, leadership and organizational behavior has been widely published. ❖

Alumna entrepreneur succeeds with APPEARANCES

BY KATHLEEN MCMAHON

Jolene Schwartz, member of the Thomas Edison State College class of '96, believes that "everyday is full of new opportunities. How you address those opportunities determines what happens in the future." A successful business owner by the time she was 26, Jolene has been seizing opportunities since she was a child.

Winning a fight against cancer at 18, Jolene found out "I can beat the odds, I can do anything." She earned her cosmetology license in high school, obtained an associate degree in business management from York College in Pennsylvania at the age of 20, apprenticed as a barber and started her own business by her 26th birthday.

When she opened the immediately successful APPEARANCES for Men, it went against current trends of large and unisex salons prevalent in

the industry. In addition, recognizing time as the ever important but seemingly elusive commodity, she took grooming services to her customers by establishing the shop in an office building.

About four years ago, friends who worked for the state of New Jersey attended a seminar on Thomas Edison State College and mentioned it to Jolene. Although not actively seeking to further her education at the time, she says "fate walked in the door."

"As an entrepreneur, I knew I had to be constantly learning to stay in business. I also thought that if I ever wanted to leave the business, I would need the credentials of a four-year degree to substantiate my skills," says



Jolene Schwartz, Class of '96

Jolene. Previously, she had completed three semesters at a campus-based school, but the time constraints were too difficult. "Most classes started at 6 p.m., and I didn't close until then. With a small busi-

ness, if you have customers waiting at 6 p.m., you stay until you're finished," Jolene adds. The flexibility and acceptance of knowledge gained in innovative ways is what made her choose Thomas Edison State College.

"I planned a schedule I could handle. I was able to take different courses in different ways," Jolene says. Through Guided Study, Portfolio Assessment and testing she was able to complete work for a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration

degree without jeopardizing a growing business.

Directly crediting the education received through Thomas Edison as bettering her business through her improved writing and computer skills, she adds, "the experience helped me realize I am self directed, have the ability to accomplish things I never thought possible and possess the determination and confidence to succeed."

It's just a few months after graduation, and Jolene already has started another learning program. She is now working on a course to become a certified financial planner. As a student at Thomas Edison and a member of the Small Business Association of Delaware Valley, she recognized that both organizations appealed to the same self directed, independent, entrepreneurial

individual, and initiated contacts that she hopes may lead to some future partnership.

Inventing is also on her list of goals. She already has started to unite her knowledge of marketing and grooming. She is experimenting with products for children that combine natural play habits with grooming. "New products are often just a new twist to an already successful product," she explains. "For example, men might not use a gel, but put it in spray form and it suddenly becomes more acceptable."

To someone thinking about furthering their education or to starting any project, she offers this advice: "There are no failures, just opportunities to learn or to try another tactic. You will never know if you don't try, but do the research and prepare yourself so you have a better than average chance of succeeding." ♦

Spirit of Edison Awards

Richard J. Gillespie

This year's Spirit of Edison Award winner from the business community is an innovator and true entrepreneur. Richard "Dick" J. Gillespie, president of Gillespie, Inc., has a quarter century of experience in marketing, advertising, direct response marketing, public relations and publishing.

Founded by Gillespie in 1973, Gillespie Advertising grew from meager beginnings with no clients and a total investment of \$1,500 to one of the largest advertising agencies in the United States.

A journalist and copywriter by training, Dick has served as the agency's creative director several times and has won dozens of regional and national awards for creativity. An astute marketer, Dick has shaped new strategic marketing directions that have aided substantial client growth.

As an agency executive, his views on management and structure have been widely sought. He has often lectured before both industry groups and at colleges on his firm beliefs that creative leadership, strategic planning and sound business practices are important partners for dynamic agency growth.

He founded Gillespie Public Relations in 1985 and Magazine Marketing, Inc., an innovative counseling and advertising promotion company dedicated specifically to the publishing community, the following year. In the late 80's, recognizing the changing needs of today's communication world, he began a



Spirit of Edison Award winners Paula Vaughan '90 and Dick Gillespie share a light moment with College President Dr. George A. Pruitt.

process of re-engineering his firm toward full marketing integration, encompassing advertising, direct response and database marketing, sales promotion and public relations, renaming the company, Gillespie.

Today the firm is the 75th largest general advertising agency in the U.S., the 12th largest direct response agency worldwide, one the 30 largest sales promotion agencies in the U.S. and has one of the largest public relations practices in the New Jersey/Philadelphia market.

A B.A. graduate of Duquesne University, he joined Dow Jones right after college as a copywriter for the firm's promotion department. Over the next seven years, he moved quickly, becoming advertising and promotion manager for the company's education division, and at the age of 26, corporate public relations director.

Gillespie is a member of the board of the Thomas Edison State College Foundation, an advisory board member to the Rider University School of Business, a member of the board of trustees of Catholic Charities of Trenton, and has been appointed to the New Jersey District Export Council of the U.S. Secretary of Commerce. He is the founder of the New Jersey Communications, Advertising & Marketing Association (CAMA), the Princeton Christian Businessman's Association and the annual Bernard Kilgore Memorial Lecture at Rider University. Gillespie also is a former governor of the Philadelphia Chapter of the American Association of Advertising Agencies.

The father of six children, he lives in Pennington, N.J., with his wife, Donna.

Paula Vaughan '90

When Paula Vaughan gets involved, she really gets involved. Paula, who was honored as the alumni recipient of the Spirit of Edison Award, is a very active member of the Thomas Edison State College Alumni Association. The 1990 graduate has set a few ambitious goals as an Association board member—including fundraising and friend raising.

A strong supporter of the College, Vaughan is a member of the Patron's Circle, which includes donors who give gifts over \$1,000. A vice president for Prudential, she has volunteered her skills as a member of the Alumni Association's Major Donor Advisory committee.

In addition to her fundraising activities, she is friend raising for the College as vice president of Alumni Member Relations and co-chair of the Regional Meetings committee. As a member of the latter, she

has worked on the re-invigoration of regional chapters and corporate affiliates for alumni. Paula will serve as the president elect of the Alumni Association Board of Directors for a two-year term commencing in 1997.

Vaughan, who has been with Prudential for over 26 years, has been a vice president since 1987.

Vaughan first learned about Thomas Edison State College on a Sunday morning radio show. She had begun her education in 1966 and had credits equal to about two and a half years of college when she enrolled in Thomas Edison in 1989. Using testing and the Program on Noncollegiate Sponsored Instruction (PONS), Paula was able to complete degree requirements in less than a year.

"When I went looking for a way to get my degree, it wasn't to increase my chances of promotion, and it wasn't to change careers," she explained. "It was to give me a sense of accomplishment around what I want to be a lifetime of learning."

Recently, Vaughan was selected as a member of the 1996 class of Leadership America, a not-for-profit organization for which only 100 women are selected each year. She also serves as vice president of the Newark Emergency Services for Families. Vaughan, a true animal lover, lives in Parsippany, N.J., with her dog and seven cats. She has a daughter, Marnie, who is studying culinary.

"Belonging to the Alumni Association gives me a chance to help the College encourage others in their education pursuits," she concluded. ♦

SHINING STARS...

BY LINDA SOLTIS

Thomas Edison State College is recognizing three of its finest alumni in this issue's Shining Stars. These awards were given at the Annual PHT (Putting Him/Her Through) Banquet, held after Commencement. While the banquet was developed to recognize that family and friends play a large role in helping students reach their goals of earning a college degree, the event also allows the Alumni Association to pay tribute to those who have served their professions and the College, as well.

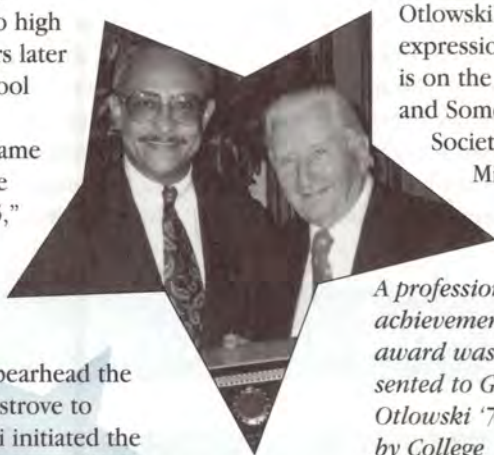
Outstanding Professional Achievement

George J. Otlowski, B.A. '76, like one of his heroes—President Abraham Lincoln—is a self-made man.

Otlowski's formal education was very erratic, ending after seventh grade and a makeup of the eighth grade. His father, a Polish immigrant, died when Otlowski was 12, leaving four children and three of his maternal grandmother's children in his widowed mother's care. The Great Depression may have been an economic tragedy to many, but to Otlowski, it was an educational boom. It opened the door for him to read, read, read. It also opened another door: his admission to Middlesex Junior College where he accumulated over 90 credits. Fortunately, he was admitted as a probationary student since he had no high school diploma. Otlowski remedied that many years later when, after World War II, he received his High School Equivalency Certificate.

"Both my associate and baccalaureate degrees came to me by the magic of Thomas Edison State College when I qualified for Social Security at the age of 65," Otlowski explained. "I had over 60 years of public service, and the satisfaction of learning on the job as an assistant to mayors, a mayor, a freeholder, director and an assemblyman."

Otlowski's love for learning prompted him to spearhead the drive to create Middlesex County College. He also strove to expand county vocational school services. Otlowski initiated the much needed Middlesex County Office on Aging to serve elderly people. He served as chairman of the Metropolitan Regional Council and as a director of the National Association of Freeholders. He also served as president of the New Jersey Association of Counties.



A professional achievement award was presented to George Otlowski '76 (r) by College President Dr. George A. Pruitt.

A life-long resident of Perth Amboy, he initiated his political career in 1940 as assistant to the mayor. He served Middlesex County as a freeholder and director from 1955 to 1973. He also held an Assembly seat in the 19th Legislative District. Elected to a first term in the Assembly, he served on the Joint Appropriations Committee, Institution & Agencies Committee and the Joint Subcommittee of Institutions & Agencies. He was also chairman of the Institution, Health and Welfare Committee. He has been in the forefront of fighting taxes and spending. Otlowski was elected mayor of the City of Perth Amboy, carrying every district save one in the 1976 election. Re-elected in 1980, he turned the city from its downward descent to a consistent movement upward, economically and socially.

Otlowski's dynamic leadership has found expression in nonpolitical activities as well. He is on the Board of Trustees of the Middlesex and Somerset County Multiple Sclerosis Society, an honorable trustee with the Middlesex County Heart Association and is responsible for obtaining \$80,000 for a pool for underprivileged youngsters at Kiddie Keep Well Camp in Roosevelt Park. He also serves as state chairman of Polish Relief Program for Poland. ❖

WE WANT YOU IN THE ALUMNI DIRECTORY!

The Silver Anniversary issue of the Thomas Edison State College Alumni Directory, due in the fall of 1997, will be the first complete reference on over 10,000 alumni! It will include current name, address and phone number, academic data, plus business information (if applicable), bound into a library-quality edition.

The Office of Development and Alumni Affairs has contracted the Bernard C. Harris Publishing Company, Inc., to produce the directory. A questionnaire will be mailed to all alumni. If you prefer not to be listed, contact the Office of Development and Alumni Affairs.

Outstanding Service to the Alumni Association

Charlotte Cooney, BSBA '91 didn't wait until her graduation to become active with the Thomas Edison State College Alumni Association, and she didn't hold anything back either.

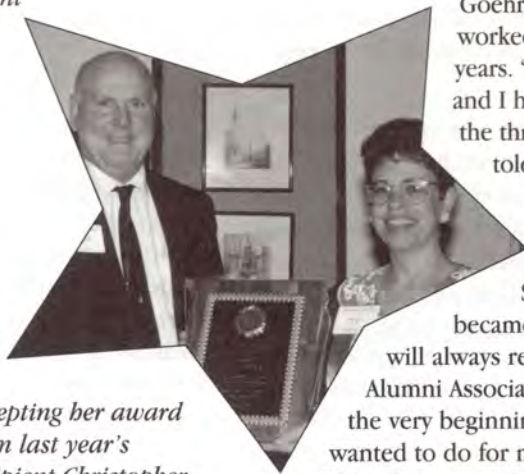
Her involvement has included serving on committees for Souvenirs, Commencement, Regional Meetings, Phonathon and Awards. Currently, she is serving as treasurer.

A 1991 graduate of Thomas Edison with a Bachelors of Science in Business Administration degree, Cooney became involved with the alumni in 1990. "It has been a wonderful experience in sharing ideas and working with people who have a sincere common bond—giving back to Thomas Edison State College."

After earning an associate degree from Rider University, Cooney pursued a career in fund raising. She had worked at various hospitals and universities in the area and currently is employed at the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University as an undergraduate representative.

Born in Trenton, N.J., and raised in the Hopewell Valley area, Cooney has lived in Lawrenceville, N.J., for the past five years. Her spare time is spent with family, friends and traveling. ❖

Not pictured:
Award winner
Charlotte
Cooney '91,
vice president
Alumni
Member
Relations.



Accepting her award from last year's recipient Christopher Wynings '92 is Nancy Goebbrig '86. Goebbrig serves as vice president for Programs of the Alumni Association.

Nancy Goebbrig, A.A. '86

and Thomas Edison State College were made for each other. She had the college credits from a number of institutions and no degree, and the College had the program to help her get that degree.

"When I started working at the [New Jersey] Office of Student Assistance, I had a few college credits," said Goebbrig, a secretarial assistant who has worked at the Trenton-based office for 15 years. "But they were from various colleges, and I had not received a degree from any of the three places I had attended. A co-worker told me about Thomas Edison and I was able to receive my associate's degree after only taking three additional college-level courses." Shortly after graduation, Goebbrig became active with the Alumni Association. "I will always remember the warm way in which all the Alumni Association Board members treated me from the very beginning," she said. "This was something I wanted to do for me and for the College. I wanted to be able to help spread the word about what Thomas Edison could do for single, working parents, by providing them the flexibility to work around their busy schedules and still obtain a degree."

Goebbrig has served as a member of the Alumni Association Board of Directors since 1990, and as chair of the Awards Committee for several years. She has always been actively involved in the Annual Fund and the Alumni Association Annual Fund Phonathon activities. In 1992, she became acting secretary and then completed two additional years in that role. Goebbrig currently is finishing her second year as vice president of Programs.

Born and raised in Trenton, N.J., Goebbrig currently resides in Hamilton, N.J., with her two sons, Richard and Matthew. In addition to her volunteer activities with the Alumni Association, Goebbrig serves on the PTA Executive Board at the school her sons attend. She also is a volunteer teacher for St. Raphael's Church CCD program. ❖

Visit our college
on the
World Wide Web at
<http://www.tesc.edu>

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION from the president

Dear Fellow Alumni,

With the holidays behind us, we're refreshed and enthused after having spent time with our family and friends. The holidays, and, in particular, the New Year, also are times for new beginnings, when some of us vow to make improvements in our lives.

If one of your many thoughts for the New Year includes getting to know your fellow graduates, then you are in luck. This year, the ways that can happen are almost endless. Each year, we send you a letter inviting you to join the Alumni Board of officers and directors. I have been a part of the Board since 1988. But this is not about me—it's to inform you of ways available for you to share in my enthusiasm for this great institution.

This year, the College is celebrating its 25th anniversary. For 25 years, Thomas Edison State College has enabled more than 12,000 adults to earn college degrees that they may never have received through campus-based college courses. Celebrate with us and become active in the following ways:

❖ Become a Board or a committee member! You do not have to live in or near Trenton, N.J., to become active in the Alumni Association. Board members are required to attend six board meetings in a year, work at least one Phonathon session and one committee, and have fun. The last is definitely mandatory. You don't have to be a member of the Board to work on a committee. Committees include: Souvenirs, Commencement Day, Phonathon, Awards,



Adele K. Ellis, '88, '94

Nominating, Programs, Regional Meetings and Budget. Committees meet when needed. Benefits to you are that you gain friends and experience, and get

If one of your many thoughts for the New Year includes getting to know your fellow graduates, then you are in luck.

the chance to network with people in your own field. You could also gain information to change careers—I did!

❖ Join or start a Chapter! We already have a chapter of the

Alumni Association in Northern New Jersey. Interest in beginning chapters for the 1997 year has been noted in Central New Jersey and in Los Angeles, Calif. All that is needed to start a Chapter is at least three people to coordinate activities. Same benefits as above.

❖ Chat with us on line or leave a message on the bulletin board! We have a new "Virtual Chat Room" (see article on this page), and 1997 Alumni Board President Paul Hays is willing to host a chat meeting. We just need some participants! You can e-mail either myself at A_Ellis@msn.com or JrHi7n8@aol.com, or Paul at Phays@GPU.com. You also can leave a message on the bulletin board — someone will contact you from the Alumni Board (probably Paul, who visits there a little more than I do). Here's a place where you know people share your interests and lifestyle.

Of course having been a part of the Alumni Association for so many years and the president for

the last two, I know what a great impact becoming a part of this organization can have on your life. You already are a member, get involved! After all, you can never have too many friends! Please contact me or Paul through the Alumni Association Office

at (609) 984-1588, or at our e-mail addresses, and we will be happy to have you join us in this important year in Thomas Edison State College history. God bless you and your families! ❖

Northern New Jersey Chapter

Lessons in investing

Alumni received some continuing education in "Investing in the '90s and Retirement Planning," courtesy of the Northern New Jersey Chapter of the Alumni Association.. Kevin P. Cauley of Smith Barney and Paul S. Beers of S. John Quattrone Associates presented and answered many questions from the audience.

Reside in the northern part of New Jersey? Watch for future events and programs in your area. If you are interested in becoming involved with the Northern New Jersey Chapter, or if you would like to explore starting a Chapter of the Alumni Association in your area, contact the Office of Development and Alumni Affairs at (609) 984-1588.

applause...applause...

'86

Barbara G. Dan (B.A.) of Newberg, Ore., is teaching scriptwriting in the communications studies program in

the Humanities Department at George Fox University in Newberg. Barbara, owner and publisher of Eden Publishing in Newberg, earned her M.A. in Humanities from California State University-Dominguez Hills, Calif., in 1988. "All this is possible because of Thomas Edison State College," Barbara said during a phone conversation. "The College has really made a difference in my life."

'88

Dr. Christine Holzer (B.A.) of Newton, N.J., was recently granted the degree Doctor of Philosophy in visual arts and

communications from The Union Institute in Cincinnati, Ohio. Her area of specialization was electronic art. Currently, Christine is the coordinator of the Graphic Design Degree Program at County College of Morris in Randolph, N.J.

'89

Gordon M. Curran, Jr., (BSAST) of Warminster, Pa., received the Master of Engineering degree from The

Pennsylvania State University.

'91

Navy Chief Petty Officer Thomas E. Willis (A.A.) recently reported for duty with Naval Mobile Construction Battalion Five in Port Hueneme, Calif. Thomas joined the Navy in 1977.

'92

Navy Lt. Cmdr. Mark C. Chayer (BSBA) recently received his third Navy-Marine Corps Commendation

Medal for his outstanding performance while serving on the staff of Commander, Submarine Group Two, Naval Submarine Base New London in Groton, Conn. Mark, who joined the Navy in May 1971, was recognized for his dedication as a communications officer.

'93

Hunter J. Lewis (ASM, BSBA) of Pine Hill, N.J., was recently accepted into the Master of Science in

Information Systems program at Drexel University. Hunter is the information systems coordinator for the South Jersey District of the United States Postal Service in Bellmawr, N.J. He is also teaching two classes as an adjunct professor at Camden County College. "My education at Thomas Edison has helped make all of this possible," Hunter writes. "My mother, who graduated from Thomas Edison in 1986, inspired me to enroll, and I'm very glad she did. I'm a living example of what an education at Thomas Edison State College can do."

'94

Rita Diana Benasutti (B.A.) of Boca Raton, Fla., completed her master's degree in counseling (4.0 cum) in August

1996 through The New York Institute of Technology (NYIT) in the Boca Raton branch. She is eligible to be licensed as a mental health counselor, and intends to complete her doctoral degree. Rita currently leads therapy groups at the Center for Group Counseling in Boca Raton.

'95

Marine 2nd Lt. Richard B. Young (BSAST) recently graduated from the Basic School at Marine Corps

Combat Development Command, Quantico, Va. During the 26-week course, newly commissioned officers are prepared for assignment to the Fleet Marine Force. A 1989 graduate of Arthur P. Schalick High School in Centerton, N.J., Richard joined the Marine Corps in November 1995.

'95

Jean Quinn Manzo (B.A.) of Sayreville, N.J., became a first-time author with the publication of

Surviving Without a Secretary. Published by Crisp Publication of Menlo Park, Calif., *Surviving Without a Secretary* teaches managers the skills needed to survive in today's lean organizations. Jean is senior copywriter for McGraw-Hill's professional book clubs and a computer applications instructor for Middlesex County Vocational and Technical Schools. She was the recipient of the 1995 Check-Out Hunger Awareness Volunteer Award presented by the Community FoodBank of New Jersey.

'96

Marine Lance Cpl. Eric K Hyndman (B.A.) recently graduated from the Reserve Administration

Course, a two-week course at Marine Corps Service Support Schools, Marine Corps Base, Camp Lejeune, N.C. A 1988 graduate of Haddonfield Memorial High School in Haddonfield, N.J., Lance joined the Marine Corps in May 1994.

GET CAUGHT IN THE WEB:

Alumni "chat" bulletin board

Alumni who learned at a distance as students of Thomas Edison State College now can take part in a virtual reunion—at a distance, of course—in the Alumni Bulletin Board/Chat Room on the College's Web site. Point your browser to <http://www.tesc.edu>, click on the Alumni link and, as fast as you can say "cyberspace" you're there.

"The Alumni Bulletin Board/Chat Room is a place where alumni can exchange messages in 'almost' real time," notes Alumni Association President Adele Ellis '88, '94. "Each time you reload, you can see the new messages that have been posted. Alumni who set a meeting time for chatting can carry on a 'conversation' through this bbs/chat system."

Watch the Web site for special interest bbs/chat rooms and other updates.

If you would like news of your accomplishments included in the Applause, Applause section of *INVENTION*, please send information to:

Office of Development and Alumni Affairs
Thomas Edison State College
101 W. State St.
Trenton, N.J. 08608-1176

You may enclose a black-and-white photograph for consideration. Please include your daytime phone number, Thomas Edison degree(s) earned and year of graduation. Your news will be published as soon as possible; however, due to our quarterly publication schedule, it may not appear in the next issue.

Take the Walk of Honor

A unique opportunity to become a permanent part of the College's history is available to all alumni, students and friends of the College. The Thomas Edison State College Walk of Honor will grace the soon-to-be renovated townhouses, located in the historic buildings next to Thomas Edison State College. Full information about this program has been mailed. Bricks will be sold to build the Walk of Honor from now through May 1, 1997.

Purchasing a brick is a fantastic way to show your pride in your degree, honor a special person, memorialize a loved one and make a lasting contribution to the growth of Thomas Edison. Each brick is \$125, and has room for two lines of copy. Watch your mailbox for all the details, or call the Office of Development and Alumni Affairs, (609) 984-1588. Take your place in history through the Thomas Edison Walk of Honor! ❖

Earn an "A" in income planning

The kids are grown. College bills are a thing of the past. The mortgage is just about paid off. There is a special kind of life income plan that provides for your future needs and your current income: a charitable remainder trust. You donate assets to a trust and get back income for life, income that could possibly be more than those assets yield now. In addition, you can provide for your loved ones to receive income after your lifetime. Once all of the provisions have been met, the remaining principal goes to the charity of your choice. This provides some tax advantages, such as no capital gains tax, an income tax charitable deduction, estate tax savings and more.

To get started, contact the professionals in the Office of Development and Alumni Affairs at Thomas Edison State College and ask for the *Charitable Remainder Trust* brochure. Gifts to the Thomas Edison State College Foundation benefit programs, services and emerging technologies so important to those who learn at a distance. Charitable remainder trusts, along with other planned gifts, endowments and yearly Annual Fund gifts create a lasting legacy for Thomas Edison State College. For more information, contact the Office of Development and Alumni Affairs at (609) 984-1588. ❖

Reach out...and help someone apply!

Did you have a great experience at Thomas Edison State College? Share it! Let a friend know about the Thomas Edison State College so that their dreams of earning a college degree can become a reality. Give a friend the Each One, Reach One coupon in this issue. Reach out today!

Each One, Reach One

Pass this along to a friend who can benefit from Thomas Edison State College's services for adult learners!

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Work Phone _____

Home Phone _____

E-mail _____

Referred by _____

Mail this coupon to: Thomas Edison State College
Office of Admissions
101 W. State St.
Trenton, N.J. 08608-1176

Questions? (609) 984-1150

The Alumni Each One, Reach One Campaign Reaches Out Once Again!

FW96/97

James Brown...from p.1

Graduate School of Business from 1969 to 1972. In 1972, Dr. Brown was appointed to lead one of the nation's first public colleges designed exclusively to serve adults: Thomas Edison State College. Under his direction, the College became a national leader in the assessment of experiential learning and other innovative educational venues designed for mature adults. Dr. Brown is remembered warmly by former colleagues as a man who loved people, had an infectious sense of humor and enjoyed his work. In an interview early last year, Dr. Brown reminisced, "It was the only job I ever had where you'd go in through the front door every day with a smile on your face."

After leaving the College in 1979, Dr. Brown continued to enjoy a distinguished career in higher education as professor of Economics and dean at Babson College and Post College and professor of Economics at Southern Connecticut State University. Dr. Brown was a founding member of the board of trustees of the Council for the Advancement of Experiential Learning (CAEL); a member of the Committee on Alternatives and Innovation and the Delegation to Egypt and Greece of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities; and a member of two visitation teams of the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools. He is survived by a son, James Douglas Brown III of Wynnewood, Pa.; a daughter, Elizabeth Brown of Binghamton, N.Y.; and a sister, Doris Brown Hobbes of Australia. ❖

College Dean keynote speaker at military educational workshop

Dr. Patricia Sparks, vice provost and academic dean, was the keynote speaker at the 1996 DANTES Regional Workshop at Fort Jackson in Columbia, S.C. The workshop, sponsored by the Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES), focused on the needs and concerns of military education center guidance counselors. The Department of Defense is supporting the extension of Internet access for educational service centers worldwide. The primary focus of the workshop was on access and use of the Internet to support the educational services of the military. As keynote speaker, Sparks addressed why the military should be interested in the Internet and how it can help military education center counselors. Sparks also represented the College on a distance learning panel which included representatives from the University of Phoenix, the University of Maryland and the California College of Health Science, and conducted a live Internet demonstration highlighting the web sites and services available to support educational counseling. For information about the College, contact the Office of Admissions at (609) 984-1150, by e-mailing to admissions@call.tesc.edu or by applying on-line at <http://www.tesc.edu>. To explore partnerships between the military and Thomas Edison State College, or to discuss an on-site presentation, contact the Office of the Vice Provost and Academic Dean at (609) 984-1130. ❖



Dr. Patricia Sparks

THOMAS EDISON STATE COLLEGE: *Geared for the military*

As the nation's premier distance learning institution, Thomas Edison State College is the choice for military personnel and their families. Thomas Edison's program allows them to be successful at earning college degrees, despite a military schedule that may include frequent travel, often to remote locations, as well as relocation and assignments that make attending college classes on a regular schedule impossible. At the College's most recent Commencement ceremony, 200 of the 968 degrees were awarded to active duty military personnel. Thomas Edison's fees are very reasonable, and students may pay as they proceed through the degree for the College services they use. An added incentive is that all active military personnel, regardless of where they may be stationed anywhere in the world, are charged fees at the less expensive, in-state rate. For more information, call the Office of Admissions at (609) 984-1150, or visit the College's World Wide Web site at <http://www.tesc.edu>, or e-mail admissions@call.tesc.edu.

Affiliation benefits the men and women in uniform

A formal partnership which benefits those serving in the military links North Central Institute (NCI) of Clarksville, Tenn. and Thomas Edison State College. NCI is a private, postsecondary institution located directly across from Ft. Campbell, Kentucky. NCI specializes in the occupational/technical disciplines of aviation, real estate and business. Thomas Edison State College has a 25-year history of working closely with military personnel and other adult learners to enable them to complete degrees wherever they live and work. According to Dr. Patricia Sparks, vice provost and academic dean of Thomas Edison State College, NCI students now will be able to apply to Thomas Edison any time after earning the FAA license and move seamlessly into the College's quality associate or baccalaureate degree programs. The partnership will enable NCI students and graduates to earn credit at Thomas Edison for college-level knowledge they already have and to take advantage of more than 100 distance learning courses offered through a variety of media, including the Internet. "We are delighted to continue our outreach to military and other adult learners throughout this partnership," said Dr. George A. Pruitt, president of Thomas Edison State College. To apply to the College, contact the Office of Admissions at (609) 984-1150, by e-mailing to admissions@call.tesc.edu or by applying on-line at <http://www.tesc.edu>. To explore partnerships between the military and Thomas Edison State College, or to discuss an on-site presentation, contact the Office of the Vice Provost and Academic Dean at (609) 984-1130. ❖

Gatsby & Friends...from p.1

evening was the presentation of the Spirit of Edison awards to two outstanding individuals from the business and education communities. The Spirit of Edison awards recognize a national business leader and a graduate of Thomas Edison State College whose creativity, commitment and entrepreneurial spirit have had a profound impact on the quality of life in our country. This year's winners were Richard J. Gillespie, president of Gillespie, Inc., and Paula Vaughan '90, vice president for Change Management at Prudential Insurance and Financial Services (see related article on page 3). Besides a fabulous meal and dancing to the sounds of Trilogy, guests also enjoyed a Silent Auction featuring exciting cultural and sporting events, and travel packages. The evening was co-chaired by S. John Quattrone, president of S. John Quattrone Associates, and Maria Imbalzano, Esq., of Stark and Stark. ❖

Arnold Fletcher Award presented to 43 graduates

The Arnold Fletcher Award recognizes Thomas Edison State College baccalaureate graduates for exceptional achievement in independent learning. Students selected have demonstrated excellence and earned a large number of credits using one or more of the innovative forms of learning recognized by the College: examinations; programs offered by the College's Center for Distance & Independent Adult Learning, including Guided Study, Contract Learning and the On-Line Computer Classroom™; learning via personal computer using the CALL (Computer Assisted Lifelong Learning) Network™; evaluation of corporate and military training; assessment of college-level knowledge gained through professional experience; approved



The 1996 Arnold Fletcher Award Winners present at Commencement.

correspondence programs; and classroom instruction at other accredited colleges and universities. The

award is named in honor of Dr. Arnold Fletcher, vice president for Academic Affairs at Thomas Edison State College from 1973 to 1983.

Forty-three baccalaureate graduates were honored at the

Students selected have demonstrated excellence and earned a large number of credits using one or more of the innovative forms of learning recognized by the College.

College's 24th Annual Commencement on Oct. 20. Pictured from the left are Susan N. Michaud of Hackensack, N.J.; Richard J. Kosmoski of Parlin, N.J.; Doris E. Rodriguez of Raritan, N.J.; Alexander K. Gray

of Havelock, N.C.; Douglas A. Bowker of Lakewood, N.J.; Scott A. Goess of Clarksboro, N.J.; Clay C. Chaffee of Oceanside, Calif.; Patricia C. LaRosa of Dumont, N.J.; Henry P.

Pasqualini of Toms River, N.J.; Dawn R. Love of Philadelphia, Pa.; Greg W. Downs of Martinez, Ga.; and Patricia A. Gianotti of Toms River, N.J.

Not pictured are Corey A.

Barum of Winona, M.N.; Meridee T. Bell; Kelly D. Frizzell of Sebastopol, Calif.; Leanne B. Jacobson of Jerusalem, Israel; Michele B. Pulis of Lake Hopatcong, N.J.; Chana F. Refson of Jerusalem, Israel; Hadassah Sadowsky of Brooklyn, N.Y.; Ruth Shurin of Brooklyn, N.Y.; Martin A. Treu of Hainesport, N.J.; Candida D. Velvet of Branson, Mo.; Sherman A. Williams IV of Fremont, Calif.; Gokul A. Bahadur of Lake Hiawatha, N.J.; Celeste Carpino of Colts Neck, N.J.; Mark S. Corbett of Honolulu, Hawaii; Albert G. Curving of Flemington, N.J.; Catherine Farley of Hightstown, N.J.; Bobby L. Flack of Roanoke, Va.; Gregory A. Moore of Las Vegas, Nev.; Antoinette Slack of Lambertville, N.J.; Richard H. Smith of Alexandria, Va.; Patricia A. Peppi of Neptune, N.J.; Scott F. Bussey of Colchester, Ver.; Christian B. Cleary of Gonzales, La.; Gene P. Creamer of Omaha, Neb.; Robert D. Daniels, Jr., of Middletown, Ohio; Charles E. Fletcher of Hampton, Va.; Thomas J. Koury of Mashpee, Maine; Sean R. Raley of Washington, Pa.; John J. Tomor of Charlestown, R.I.; Douglas D. Trump of Fogelsville, Pa.; and Steven G. Weismann of Columbia, S.C. ❖

25 years...from p.1

caliber to adults wherever they lived and worked. There would be little need for conventional classrooms; instead, adults would access leading-edge learning in the privacy of their homes, at work, even on a military carrier at sea or in a transport jet 30,000 feet above the earth.

These visionaries knew that technology would transform learning and create new delivery systems as yet unimaginable. While they couldn't predict what form this new technology would take, they imagined a college so fluid and responsive to innovation that it could adapt to and use technologies as they were developed.

This "college of the future" would not only bring courses directly to working men and women, but also would enable them to earn credit for what they already know. At last college-level learning acquired outside the classroom could be validated and applied toward an academic degree.

And that wouldn't be all. The college of their dreams would offer adults more ways to complete a degree than had ever been thought possible, certainly more than any other college or university had even imagined. Because the life circumstances of adults are so unique, no two students would complete a degree program in exactly the same way. And while this futuristic college would be global in scope, it also would be personalized to deliver quality education to the individual.

The dream took shape and, in 1972, became a reality. Today, Thomas Edison State College has an international reputation for excellence in educating adults beyond the barriers of time and place. The elements of the dream, which seemed so radical in the '60s and early '70s, have all come into place thanks to the miracle of hard work, talent and commitment. More than 13,000 adults from more than 75 countries have graduated from a College which, even now, continues to invent the future of higher education.

A year-long celebration

To celebrate this unique success story in higher education, Thomas Edison State College is observing its 25th anniversary in 1997 with a year-long series of events. From brochures and banners to stationery and even the College's postage meter, everything the College produces will announce this milestone celebration.

"This year's theme, 'Inventing the Future of Higher Education,' certainly characterizes Thomas Edison State College since its beginnings," said Dr. George A. Pruitt, president. "In the past few years, other colleges have begun to discover the adult learners we have been designed to serve exclusively since our founding 25 years ago. The work we pioneered in meeting the special needs of adult learners has been imitated but not replicated in colleges and universities

around the world. I can say with absolute conviction that no educational institution is better suited to today's busy adult than Thomas Edison State College."

The year's celebration is beginning in January with a ceremony recognizing the College's John S. Watson Institute for Public Policy, which provides impartial policy analysis and review to local and state governments. Other events will include a series of academic presentations, a birthday party with cake and candles, a spectacular Foundation Gala in the fall, a Colloquium to forecast business and higher education developments in the next 25 years, and an extraordinary Commencement in the Princeton University Chapel honoring College alumni from the first graduating class.

The year also will include the publication of two milestone volumes: a 25-year history of Thomas Edison State College and the first Alumni Directory. Details will be provided to alumni and students in future issues of *Invention*.

But the birthday observances will really take up only a small part of the College's calendar in 1997. "We'll be spending most of our time doing what we do best," said Dr. Pruitt. "Inventing an even brighter future for higher education and the adult learners we serve." ❖

Hole in one

A Thomas Edison State College Foundation event that's guaranteed to be a hole in one is the Third Annual Thomas C. Streckewald Memorial Golf Classic. A date for the June 1997 event at the Trenton County Club is being finalized. Watch your mailbox and future issues of *Invention* you won't want to miss it—"fore" sure!



INVENTION is published quarterly for the students, alumni and friends of Thomas Edison State College. Please direct any inquiries or suggestions for future articles to the managing editor c/o:

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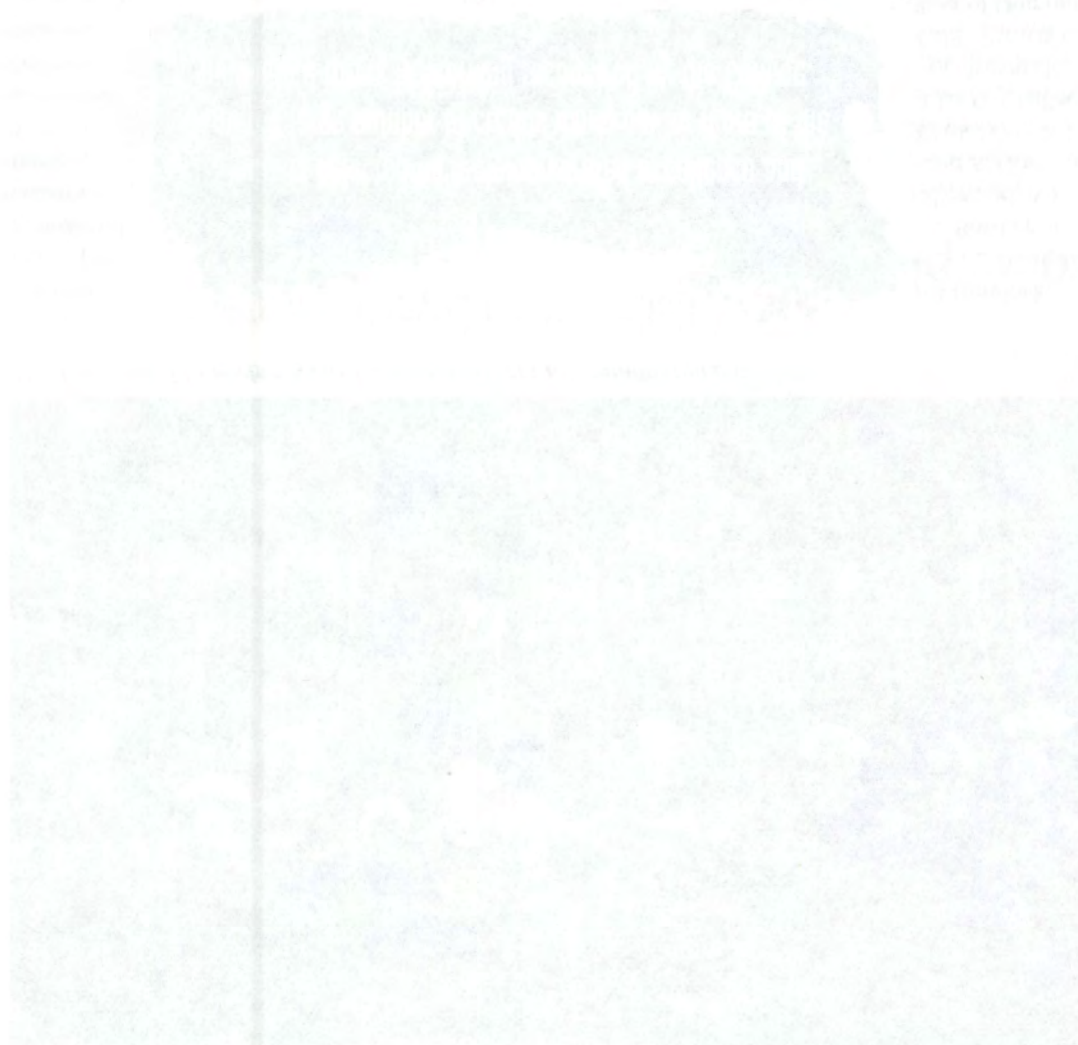
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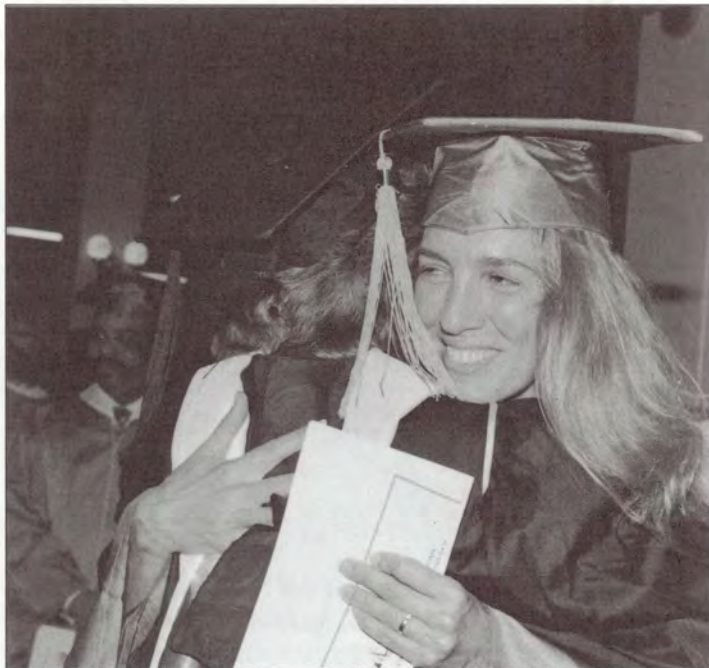
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NEWSLETTER OF THOMAS EDISON STATE COLLEGE

FALL 1996/WINTER 1997



Joy Jansson '96 is congratulated after receiving her degree.

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